CD 2012--3

UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO
FACULTY OF MUSIC

JAZZ FACULTY CONCERT

Andrew Downing, bass
Jim Lewis, trumpet
David Occhipinti, guitar
Nick Fraser, drums

Tuesday, January 17, 2012
7:30 p.m. Walter Hall
Edward Johnson Building
80 Queen's Park

2011-12 SEASON

JAZZ FACULTY CONCERT

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Jim Lewis, trumpet
David Occhipinti, guitar
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Tonight's program will be announced from the stage

ANDREW DOWNING

Andrew Downing is a Toronto based double bass player, composer and bandleader from London, Ontario. He plays primarily in the creative jazz scene in Canada, but also performs classical chamber music, improvised music, folk and roots music, and world music. He practices the unusual craft of tuning his bass in fifths and doubles on cello. His teachers include Jack Winn, Dave Young, Don Thompson, Shauna Rolston and Joel Quarrington. As a composer, Andrew has written pieces for Ensemble Meduse, Toca Loca, Runcible Spoon, The Prince George Symphony and The Urban Arts Brass Ensemble and has written arrangements for Patricia O'Callaghan, The Gryphon Trio and The Art of Time Ensemble. Upcoming projects include arranging a song cycle for avant singer songwriter John Southworth and writing a piece for Orchestra London with banjo player Jayme Stone.

Andrew leads his own chamber jazz ensemble whose first album *Silents* features music written for silent film. He has seven albums as a bandleader, including the 2004 album *Blow The House Down* which won his group Great Uncles of the Revolution a Juno award and an improvised album with guitarist David Tronzo. He is also a member of the David Occhipinti Quartet and the Lina Allemano Four.

In addition to the Juno award, he has won a SOCAN award, the Grand Prix de Jazz at the Montreal Jazz Festival, an additional Juno award for work with Zubot and Dawson, and two West Coast Music Awards.

Andrew currently teaches double bass, composition and improvisation at the University of Toronto and has taught at Wilfrid Laurier University, the Banff Centre's Jazz Workshop and the Creative Music Workshop in Halifax.

www.andrewdowning.com

JIM LEWIS

Jim Lewis is a freelance trumpet player, improviser, composer/arranger and educator, and is currently a lecturer in the jazz studies department at the University of Toronto

He is a member of the Paul Read Orchestra (*Arc-en-ciel*), Frank Lozano Group (*Colour Fields*), Christine Duncan's Element Choir (*Live at Rosedale United, Element Choir & William Parker – At Christ Church Deer Park*), Mark Segger Sextet (*The Beginning*), and an improvising trio with Andrew Downing and Jean Martin (*On a Short Path From Memory to Forgotten*). He can be heard in clubs in the Toronto area, and across the country as a sideman and with his own projects from duo to sextet. Jim has been featured on CBC's Jazzbeat, and Radio-Canada, and has played Jazz Festivals across Canada, in the United States and Europe with some of Canada's most creative jazz musicians and improvisers.

Jim holds a Masters degree in Performance (Concentration in Jazz) from the University of Louisville, where he studied trumpet performance with Michael Tunnell, composition and arranging with John LaBarbera and improvisation with Jamey Aebersold.

Jim is the Musical Director of the Ottawa Jazz Festival's annual 'Youth Jazz Summit', and the 'Galaxie Rising Stars' bringing together Canadian jazz students aged 17 – 22 to rehearse, workshop, and perform during the Ottawa Jazz Festival. He has adjudicated festivals and presented workshops across Canada and in the U.S.A., including clinics, a research paper and performing groups at the International Association of Jazz Educators Conferences in Chicago, New York, Anaheim and New Orleans.

NICK FRASER

Nick Fraser has been an active and engaging presence in the Toronto new jazz and improvised music community since he moved there from Ottawa in 1996. He has worked with a veritable "who's who" of Canadian jazz and improvised music and such international artists as Marilyn Crispell, Anthony Braxton and David Binney. Nick's recorded works as a leader include *Owls in Daylight* (1997) and *Nick Fraser and Justin Haynes are faking it* (2004). He also co-leads the co-operative group Drumheller, who have released three CD recordings on the Rat-Drifting label. Other projects that occupy Nick regularly are Peripheral Vision, Ugly Beauties (with Marilyn Lerner and Matt Brubeck), and the Lina Allemano Four. Nick is a founding member of The Association of Improvising Musicians of Toronto.

"Fraser not so much plays the drums as hurls himself whole body and soul against skin and metal... truly talented." - *Bill Stunt, CBC Radio*

DAVID OCCHIPINTI

Guitarist/composer David Occhipinti's fourth CD featuring his own compositions, *Forty Revolutions*, was nominated for a 2007 Juno Award in the contemporary jazz category. David has also released two duo CD's with saxophonist Mike Murley. Their first CD, *Duologue*, was nominated for a Juno Award in 2003.

As a composer, David has received commissions to compose for solo artists, chamber groups and large ensembles.

David has performed all across Canada, in the U.S., Europe, Japan and in Italy where he lived for a short time. David's development as an artist has been aided by the composition, recording and touring grants received from the Canada Council for the Arts, Chalmer's Arts Fellowship, the Toronto Arts Council, the Ontario Arts Council, and the DFAIT.

David Occhipinti studied in New York with the legendary jazz guitarist Jim Hall during the mid 1990's. David presently teaches guitar and ensembles at the University of Toronto and Humber College.

The 2011-12 Jazz Concerts are generously supported by Long & McQuade Musical Instruments and JAZZ.FM91.

U of T Jazz Studies is generously supported by the Beaches International Jazz Festival Youth Initiatives Program with support from the Ontario Trillium Foundation, and the Ken Page Memorial Trust.

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